Dear Parents,

I write this from the Primary Principals Association conference which has had a focus on trends in education throughout the world. The head of teacher education in Singapore, Pak Tee Ng, opened the conference with a keynote address clearly focusing on what students learn rather than what teachers teach. This is a key focus of the Singapore system which is highly regarded throughout the world.

A comment that reverberated with me was that change is constant in this modern era and that we should embrace change from a strength position rather than from when it’s so badly needed that it becomes an imperative.

I will provide more information from the conference in later newsletters.

**Cross Country Successes**

We had a great day for the House Cross Country with strong participation by the students. Congratulations to all those who entered and a special commendation to those who were able to improve their times. Thank you to Jenny Jay and Peter Bolt for organising the event. It ran very smoothly thanks to their efforts.

Congratulations to the following students who were champions or runner ups in their age groups.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year 1</th>
<th>Champion</th>
<th>Runner up</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Erinn</td>
<td>Brooke</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lorcan</td>
<td>Wesley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 2</td>
<td>Zeva</td>
<td>Bridie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Zeus</td>
<td>Charlie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 3</td>
<td>Shelley</td>
<td>Stella</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Colby</td>
<td>Aaron</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 4</td>
<td>Phillippa</td>
<td>Molly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Jack</td>
<td>George</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 5</td>
<td>Kate</td>
<td>Emma</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Rafferty</td>
<td>Ollie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 6</td>
<td>Abbi</td>
<td>Amity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Finn</td>
<td>Gus</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Canteen Usage**

A reminder again to ask parents to keep using the canteen so that it remains viable. The food is great and the service is second to none. Remember, hot chocolates are available each morning before school.

**Assembly**

This week’s assembly will be conducted by our year 1/2 class from Room 3. We hope you can come along and enjoy the program.

**Sun-safe Policy**

The School Council formally ratified the Sun-safe policy during Monday’s meeting. The cornerstone of that policy is the wearing of a sun-safe hat all year round, using sun screen on warm days, wearing appropriate clothing to school and promoting sun-safe processes. The policy is on the school’s website.
Gilbert Potoroo Fundraiser
On Wednesday the Student Councillors organised the Gilbert Potoroo fundraiser. The school was full of interesting Australian wildlife. There were fantastic costumes including a colourful parrot, cute fairy penguins, white and brown kangaroos and elegant emus. Gilbert the Potoroo visited the school and had photos taken with students. Gilbert was even seen hugging a few people! Students donated their small change by placing the money on outlines of Potoroos. The total amount raised was $738.80. The cheque will be handed over to Mr Ron Dorn at tomorrow’s assembly. Great effort everyone.

Annual School Report 2015
The annual school report for 2015 was presented to the School Council at Monday’s meeting. It also is on the school website.

The report outlines the effectiveness of key processes in the school and, in particular, focuses on student performance. Please have a read and ask any questions of me regarding any of the content. The school has much to celebrate as we are successful in so many ways. This does not mean that we are perfect! We are aware of areas that need improvement and we will continue in our endeavours to be the best that we can be.

Smoking on School Grounds
I would hope that all remember that smoking is not permitted on the school grounds at any time. This includes the car parks areas and also includes during after school sports sessions.

Student Playing in the Grounds After School
We understand that many parents enjoy socialising with others at the end of the school day. This means that the children get an extra play on school equipment or on the grounds. We are happy for this to occur.

We would, however, like parents to ensure that students are playing inside the school rules. There are some students, particularly those playing in the adventure playground misusing equipment and playing dangerously. We hope parents will deal with this issue by supervising and intervening when students are not following school processes.

NAIDOC Week
Next week we will outline the NAIDOC Week activities that have been planned for the last week of the term. Please have a read of these and then participate when you can. It would be great to see parental involvement assisting with some of the activities.

Conclusion
Reports are being finalised for distribution at the end of term. They need to be proof read and signed by the administration team. They will not be available at all until Friday the last day of the term. Please do not ask to receive the report earlier.

With two weeks to go before the holidays we have a busy little period ahead of us. Hope you have a good weekend.

Brian Lee
Principal
Cross Country

Thank you to all of the competitors and spectators who participated in the House Cross Country Carnival last Friday. It was an excellent day with some strong competition and many students were impressed with their own achievements. Throughout the Term most students achieved their personal best, which was our goal. Well done!

The following were the results:
- 4th place, Michalmas 193 points
- 3rd place, Breaksea 200 points
- 2nd place, Melville 202 points
- 1st place, Clarence 269 points

For the remainder of this week we are preparing for the Interschool Cross Country, which will be held at Percy Spencer Racecourse next Tuesday, June 21. Please ensure you have returned your child’s permission slips and money. Thank you to everyone for your support.

Jenny Jay
Physical Education

NAIDOC Week

We are trying to get some Aboriginal artefacts/art etc. to display in the library for NAIDOC Week. If anyone has anything they can lend us, please bring it in before the end of week 9 so we can put it on display. Any items brought in will be put away every afternoon for safe keeping.

Deya Offer
Preparations are well underway for the new online ordering system for the canteen, commencing in week 2 of term 4. This will give parents the choice to order lunches directly from the canteen or from the comfort of your own home, at a time convenient to you. If you would like to take a sneak peek at the system we are trialling please go to www.ouronlinecanteen.com.au Further information will come home in the following weeks. A reminder that new menus went home with your child earlier this week, copies are available from the canteen.

Our next P&C meeting is on this Friday 17 June at 1:30pm in the staff room. We are trialling a day meeting to potentially increase participation from the school community. If we are successful in attracting enough parents a day meeting will be held each term.

Please come along and see what the P&C does for our children at Albany Primary School, you will not be lumbered with a job but are paramount to the decision making of the P&C. If you would like a copy of the agenda, copies are available from the office or by email albanyprimarypandc@gmail.com

We still have a few positions available; uniform shop committee, canteen committee & fundraising coordinator. If you are interested in any of these positions, please contact us on the above email or leave your details at the office.

Julie Brooks
P&C President

---

COUNCIL CORNER – Term 2, week 8

Welcome to the first ‘Council Corner’. This semi-regular column aims to provide general feedback from the discussion taking place at school council meetings held twice a term.

The school council consists of six parents, four staff and the Principal. We are:

Andrea Noble – Parent and Chairperson
Darren Kay – Parent
Paul Nielson – Parent
Deanne Rolland – Parent
Kellie Shields – Parent
Brian Lee – Principal
Teresa Daly – Staff
Phil Dawson – Staff
Stephen Murray – Staff
Melanie Whitfort - Staff

The School Council has formal functions necessary under the Shool Education Act 1999, but at APS it is also a forum for staff and parents to present ideas, possibilities and processes that assist in the development of the school. I guess you’d call it a think tank.

At this week’s meeting we approved the new Sunsafe policy (look for it on the school website). We also looked at academic performance from 2010 – 2015 as part of the draft APS 2015 annual report, seeing pleasing results for the year 5s, but a concerning trend of year 3 boys performing lower than girls. Preliminary discussion on why this trend exists and how to level the playing field were had (is there too much focus on having fun at school for year 3 boys, rather than finding engaging ways to encourage academic performance?). We also formally recognised the fantastic efforts of the P&C.

If you would like to raise or respond to any issue, we encourage you to have a chat with a council member (contact details available at school reception).

Andrea Noble
Albany Primary School TravelSmart Quiz Questions

If it costs $2/day to drive to school and back, how much money can you save by riding or walking:

In a week?  ………………………………………  In a 10 week term? ……………………………………….
In a 4 term year ……………………………

Student Name: ________________________________________________________  Room: ____________